

NEWSLETTER

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CRAIG SMITH - EXECUTIVE MANAGER

This is the last Newsletter of 2022, the next scheduled for end January, 2023. There are several important messages in this Newsletter, including calls for funding applications to the GSSA REI Fund, and the 35IGC Legacy Fund. The provisional meetings program for 2023 also features. The main event keeping everyone awake at night is Geocongress from January 11-13 (<https://allevents.eventsair.com/geocongress/>).

There has been a tremendous response to this event with 370 oral or poster abstracts received, and high interest in the excursions and the workshops. The conference will be accessible to those who may not be able to travel to Stellenbosch, through on-line participation. Check the web site for details; on-line participation is a very cost effective way to attend for those with limited time or budget. Today is the last day those planning to attend in person can register at early-bird rates, so get into the website and register before midnight. Registration will still be possible up to the start of the meeting at Standard rates. There is still time for sponsorship opportunities; you can contact craig.smith@gssa.org.za.

Many of you will be traveling over the Festive season, so please travel safely and 'Arrive Alive'. From my vantage point in Cape Town, the rush to the coast from Gauteng seems to have begun, not to mention the increasing number of foreign tourists, despite the threat of load shedding. Please travel safely and with patience. Traffic volumes after the pandemic are liable to be heavy, so drive defensively if you are on the road.

The GSSA will close the office on December 15, and re-open January 3. Email will be monitored over the festive season. Have a great year-end to 2022, and an even better new year. All the best from Sally, Marliese, Lully and myself. Have a great year end.





PRESIDENT'S COLUMN - TANIA MARSHALL

Within the next few weeks, the Q4 December Geobulletin will be available. It was first published back in 1958 as the Quarterly News Bulletin of the Geological Society of South Africa. You can read back issues from 2010 on the Geobulletin Archive on the website, with earlier issues being added from time to time.

This publication, delivered to each member four times per year, as part of their annual fees, delivers all the news from the Society, the universities, the Branches & Divisions and our sister African geological societies. Over the years we have had a number of standing contributions, such as the ever popular Geotraveller (Roger Scoon), the Geological Hotpot (George Henry) and the Mineral Scene (Bruce Cairncross), with its amazing photographs. In addition, for many years, the classified ads have been a mainstay of the Geobulletin, providing opportunities for individuals and companies to advertise their services to a focused audience.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that articles – one off or article series – are welcomed from any of our members and associates, as are letters to the Editor. If you have an idea for a series or are willing to write one, or even contribute single articles on an ad hoc basis, please contact us for further information.

There are four editions of Geobulletin per year, reaching the entire membership and then still some. As such, they are a great place to advertise your services and events – please contact Lully at info@gssa.org.za for more information and rates for advertisements.

This November Newsletter is the last one for 2022 – how the year has flown past. I remember my grandmother explaining how time went by faster as one got older because a year represented smaller and smaller percentages of the number of years already lived. I didn't quite understand at the time – I am beginning to do so now, however.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every GSSA member for their support during 2022, especially the members of the various committees who volunteer their time and expertise to try to make the GSSA the Voluntary Association of choice for geoscientists. Especially hard working are the office staff – thank you all for going the extra mile or more than one occasion. To everyone – stay safe this holiday season, whether you are travelling or enjoying a staycation.



The GSSA Research, Education and Investment Fund (REI Fund) is inviting applications from GSSA paid up-members (including current post-graduate student members) for grants from the Fund, to be received at the GSSA office not later than 31 January 2023. Applications can be made using the prescribed application form available under Publications/GSSA Documentation on the GSSA web site (www.gssa.org.za). Supporting information required with each application includes a short description of the project, brief motivation for research and funding requested, a budget describing how funds will be used, and a letter of support from research supervisor (in cases where the applicants are post-graduate students at South African universities).

Grants are intended to support a variety of earth science research costs, including analytical and field costs, conference attendance, and publication costs. Projects that promote and support earth science awareness such as geoheritage, geotourism and geo-education may also be supported. Expenses related to (annual) registration and tuition fees, text books, accommodation, etc. required at Higher Education institutions are not covered. Members enrolled at non-South African universities are not eligible to apply for financial support.

In particular we welcome applications from post graduate student members and would appreciate it if Heads of Departments at Higher Education Institutions and their staff would inform their students of this opportunity. Grants are usually limited to R20 000 per application but well-motivated applications for larger amounts are also welcome. All applications will be judged on merit and/or the importance to the Society in promoting its image. Note that grants are only awarded to members/student members in good standing.

Applications are screened by the REI Fund Committee during February/March with input and ratification by the GSSA Management Committee and Council, respectively. In evaluating the applications and recommendations, the Committee considers the merit of each application, and depending on the amount of money available for that year, makes a final decision on the allocation of grants for that year. The decision of the Committee is final and no further correspondence on the matter will be entertained. By following this procedure it is anticipated that applicants will be informed by mid-March 2022 whether or not their applications are successful. Recommendations made by the Committee require Council approval, which may delay notifications.

The current members of the REI Fund Committee are: Reinie Meyer (Chairman), Frank Gregory, Bertus Smith, Rob Ingram, Derek Kyle, Steve McCourt, Richard Viljoen, Mike Wilson, Grant Bybee and two office bearers of the Society who have ex officio status, namely the President (Tania Marshall) and the Executive Manager (Craig Smith).



APPLY NOW



35IGC LEGACY FUND



35IGC Legacy Fund support; 2023 Call for Grant Applications

The generous support received from sponsors, donors and over 4,000 registered delegates resulted in a financial surplus after the 35th International Geological Congress that was held in Cape Town during 2016. These funds have been invested and are administered by the Board of 35IGC Legacy Fund to ensure that the legacy of this successful event will benefit the South African geoscience community long into the future.

Annual grants are advertised to promote geoheritage projects or activities in support of deserving geoscience students and researchers. An annual thematic focus or dedicated conference support funding will be identified every year. The level of funding available annually for disbursement varies in relation to investment income and the need to maintain or grow capital from which sustainable support can be provided.

2023 call for grant applications

As the world emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic, many geoscientists are resuming their normal work, field-based activities and attending conferences.

Accordingly, the 2023 call for grant applications by 35IGC Legacy Fund is aimed at a broad spectrum of activities across themes that support or promote;

- **Geoheritage, geotourism, geoscience education, geoconservation.**
 - **Student support for attending geoscience meetings.**
- i) The thrust of proposals should be product-focused and applicants must outline how the grant will be utilized to establish a long-term presence that will promote activities associated with any of the themes listed above.
 - ii) Proposals that include additional sources of funds will be favoured.
 - iii) Where proposals aim to create products in support of facilities housed in a national- or provincial park, world heritage site or any other established heritage or tourism-focused facility, the written support of the controlling institution must accompany the application.

As available funds are currently limited, compliance with the above conditions does not guarantee acceptance of any applications submitted. All provisionally successful applications will be reviewed and evaluated by the Management Committee/Board of the 35IGC Legacy Fund and their decision is final.

Applications must be made on the prescribed form (available at <https://35igclegacyfund.org.za>) and submitted to Peter Stiff at pstiff@jpaudit.co.za before 15 January 2023. No late applications will be accepted. The applications will be adjudicated and the outcome announced early in 2023.



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FELLOWS DINNER HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2022



The Fellows Dinner took place at the Johannesburg Country Club Woodmead on the 11th of November. Rather unusually it was held on a Friday evening which confused a lot of us who are so used to the event being on a Thursday. The event was the first dinner for several years as last year, at the tailing off of the covid pandemic, the decision was to have a lunch with the sliding doors at the venue wide open to ensure circulation of plenty of fresh air.

This year the evening event brought out 120 participants, eager to catch up with old friends and enjoy an evening of networking over an excellent dinner washed down with wine. The result was the venue was full, the tables sparkled with their centre-piece of flowers, and a happy throng chatted away.



Judith Kinnaird, Chair of the Fellows Committee, opened the evening by welcoming the special guests and Fellows and thanked the sponsors, who made sure the event didn't make a loss!



After the starter, Tania Marshall, President of the GSSA made a special award to Sally Nienaber for the excellent service she has given to the Society since 2004, citing her dedication to duty and cheerful assistance she gave to all. She was presented with a voucher on behalf of the Society. The award of the Jubilee Medal for the best paper in the South African Journal of Geology was jointly awarded to a trio of geophysicists from the University of the Witwatersrand. Judith Kinnaird congratulated the winners Stephanie Scheiber-Enslin, Musa Manzi and Susan Webb.





The award of the Draper Memorial Medal was made by Tania Marshall. The medal is the highest scientific award of the Society and is awarded annually to a member of the Society for career-long exceptional contributions to geological science, with particular reference to the advancement of South African geology. This year the award went jointly to the husband and wife team of Prof. Paul Nex and Prof. Judith Kinnaird for their contribution to teaching and research in the field of Economic Geology in southern Africa. The joint award was not a precedent as it had been won previously by Morris and Richard Viljoen. In their acknowledgement of the award, Paul and Judith said how proud and honoured they were and expressed their profound thanks to all their colleagues especially to Prof. Grant Cawthorn who had originally invited them to South Africa for two years. That was 22 years ago.

The important event of the evening was the induction of new Fellows into the Society. Fellows were reminded that they can nominate people they know for Fellowship who have made a contribution to the GSSA, or through mentoring employees or students, or by promoting our science to society in general. Certificates were duly presented to our new Fellows and photographs taken to record the event.



After dinner, the guest speaker Clyde Mallinson was introduced as an educator who enjoys synthesising information, and who uses models to probe how systems function. Clyde draws on his experience as a Mill Superintendent, an academic, a consultant, a fund manager, and a renewable energy developer and an energy analyst, to model and anticipate the likely outcome of the current disruption in the electricity supply industry. His topic for the evening was "The role of energy". His talk hit just the right note and dare one say it was illuminating? Clearly, he is passionate about the need for South Africa to increase the development of renewable power, especially with more solar energy development in the northern Cape.



Tania then invited some of the guests to pick a number out of a hat. The number was then matched against the numbered list of attendees for the evening and six lucky people were delighted to receive a gift of a bottle of wine. After the desert, and a vote of thanks to sponsors, Fellows were free to circulate and chat to old friends and new colleagues.

The evening seemed to be a great success, with a few jokes along the way to keep the party going, good food, good wine, good company and smiling faces all around. Special thanks to the Country Club for great service and attention to detail.

Events

[EVENTS CALENDAR](#)

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2023
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2023 Membership Fees Schedule

Membership 2023 Fees	Due by 31/01/2023	Due by 28/02/2023
	2023 Fees	2023 Fees
	Early Bird	
Affiliate	1 050,00	1 050,00
Retired Affiliate	450,00	450,00
Dual	2 000,00	2 130,00
Fellow	1 500,00	1 600,00
Member	1 500,00	1 600,00
Institutional Member	7 500,00	8 000,00
Retired: Fellow	450,00	480,00
Retired: Member	450,00	480,00
Students - Only digital	Nil	Nil
Life Member/Life Fellow /Honorary		
Members are Free - Digital	Nil	Nil
Membership gives full digital access to SAJG at no extra cost.		
For printed copies of SAJG add R1400 for RSA or R3000 for International.		
Prices are based on 10 day air mail/courier.		

On behalf of the Council of the GSSA, I would like to thank you for your continued support and involvement with the Society. In recent years, the GSSA has increased membership fees by less than inflation by becoming more efficient in its operation. Inflation is now climbing with no certainty as to when it will reverse trend, and the Rand continues to weaken.

2023 fees have been increased by an average of 6.5 per cent, still well under the current CPI. If you pay before January 31, 2023, you can pay at the 2022 rate, a significant saving.....

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- **Diamonds from Exploration to Manufacturing** : 20 June – 30 June 2022
- **Practical Geological Mapping to Map Making** : 7 – 8 July 2022
- **Green Energy Day** : 30 August 2022
- **3D Geomodelling** : 7 October 2022
- **Data Analytics** : 18 – 19 October 2022
- **African Exploration and Technology Showcase** : 17 – 18 November 2022

Once you have completed viewing, please send an email to info@gssa.org.za and a certificate will be sent to you to claim CPD points.



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GSSA ONLINE EVENTS

**The GSSA, in conjunction with their event partners(s),
will sponsor a limited number of students for selected
online courses.**

**Please do not register for the course until you have been
informed in writing of a successful application.**

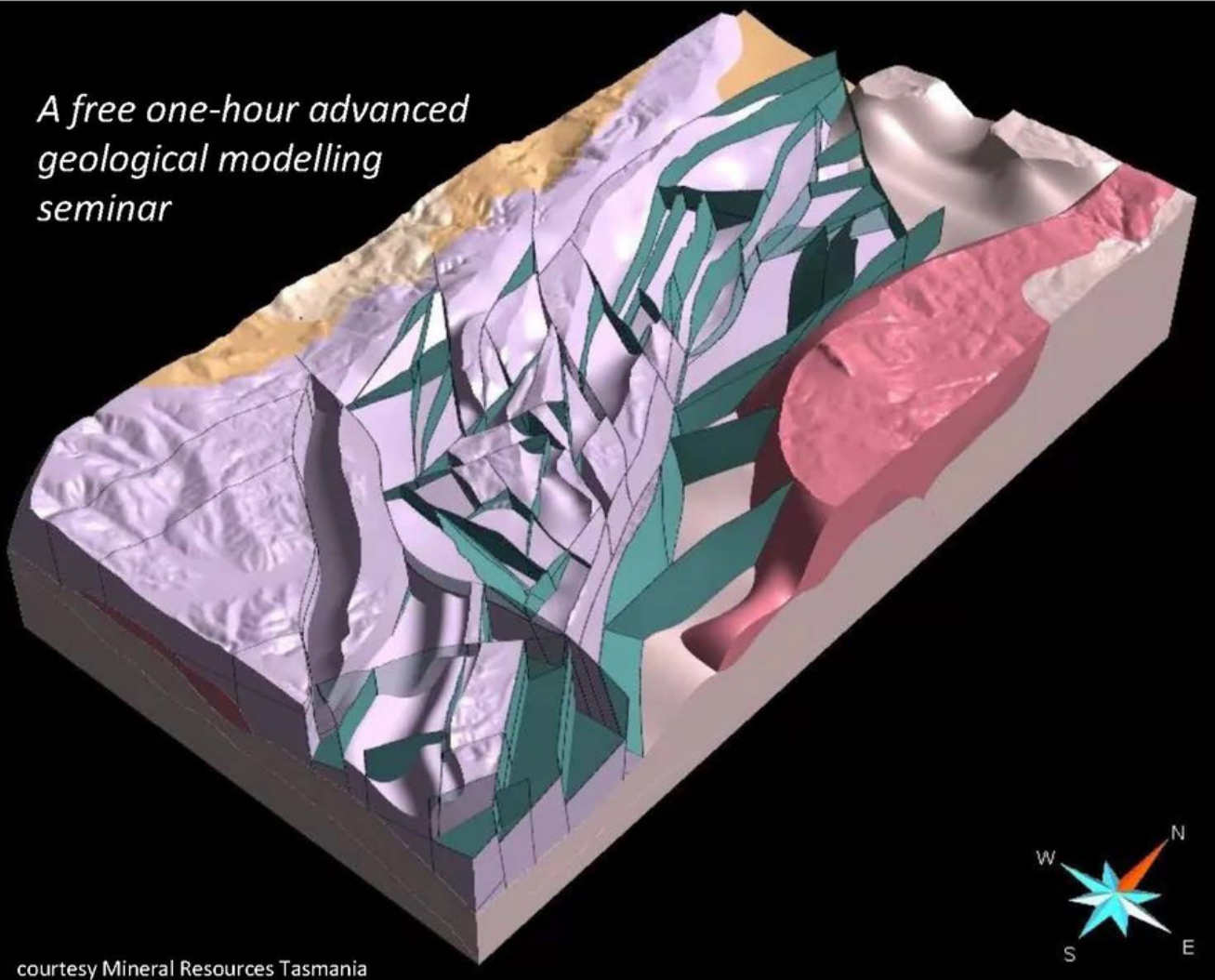


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John McGaughey, PhD, President of Mira Geoscience, will review the state of the art.

Presentation 11am to 12pm on Thursday 8th December 2022.

Welcoming tea/coffee from 10.30 am and a light lunch afterwards at 12pm.

Oak Conference Room, Melrose Place Lodge, 12A North Street, Melrose, Johannesburg



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ABOUT CAG:

The Colloquium of African Geology (CAG) is a major biennial meeting organized under the auspices of the Geological Society of Africa (GSAF), where earth scientists globally have the opportunities to present their research results on topics related to African geology and surrounding areas.

DATE: 26 - 29 September, 2023

VENUE: Windhoek, Namibia

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- **7 December – Central Segment:** Brazil – Guinea, Gabon, Congo, Angola
- **8 December – Equatorial Segment:** Guyana, Suriname, Northern Brazil – Ghana, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Liberia

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